

[11th March 1958]

Bus permit

* 280 Q.—SRI P. S. SANTHANAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Electricity be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to prevent the grant of new stage carriage permits to persons who purchased stage carriages with their permits at cheap prices prior to 1942 and subsequently sold them with their routes at higher prices?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMIAH: No, Sir.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM: I am trying to catch your eye. But when I try, you turn the other side.

MR. SPEAKER: Be more alert. நான் அப்போதே சொன்னேன், சுறுசுறுப்பாக இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: காலையில் சுறுசுறுப்பாயிருக்கலாம்.

Linguistic minority

* 281 Q.—SRI T. T. DANIEL: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether any memorandum has been submitted to the Government by the Dakshina Malayala Minority Samajam, an association of Malayalam speaking people in the Kanyakumari district;

(b) whether the Government brought to the notice of Shri B. Malik, Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities that the Tamils in the Kanyakumari district do not suffer at all because of the changeover from Malayalam to Tamil; and

(c) whether the Government are aware that the Special Officer, Shri B. Malik, has formed a wrong opinion about the position of the Tamils in the Kanyakumari district regarding the language issue?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

SRI T. T. DANIEL: More than 90 per cent of the Kanyakumari people speak only Tamil and they are really glad about the change over from Malayalam to Tamil. Because a particular group which is against the merger of Kanyakumari in Madras is making a very strenuous effort to convert Kanyakumari into a bilingual area and because a very erroneous opinion has been expressed by Mr. Mullick at a Press Conference recently held at Hyderabad on this question, will the Government take proper steps to see that the Special Officer is apprised of the real state of affairs in Kanyakumari district as far as this issue is concerned?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: The treatment of linguistic minorities is a matter which, as hon. Members are aware, is under the consideration of a special committee of Ministers formed by the Zonal Council. We do believe that the question of relationship between linguistic minorities and others in the States—